THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) In the ongoing negotiations on the Agreement on Agriculture of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), proposals for country-specific market access commitments have not been made by the United States or the European Communities. Cross-linkages across the three pillars, namely, market access, domestic support and export competition, are drawn by some developed countries, including through proposals which implicitly relate the extent of reductions in trade-distorting domestic support and elimination of export subsidies to substantial market access improvements through reductions in bound tariffs in agricultural products in both developed and developing Members.

Though the United States has raised concerns regarding high tariffs and taxes in the agriculture sector in India, including through the 2005 National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers released by the United States Trade Representative and sought market-opening opportunities, specific agricultural products or sectors have not been mentioned.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Imports from USA attract the same rate of import duty as imports from any other country with Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status.

Forex from export of services

†1751. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge foreign exchange is being earned by the export of services from India;

(b) the details of foreign exchange earned from this source in the years, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05; and

(c) the areas mainly with which the export of services from the country has been associated?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of foreign exchange earned from export of services in the years, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 are as under:

Year(s)	Value ($ billion)
2002-2003	20.76
2003-2004	24.95
2004-2005	51.33

Source: RBI

(c) It is the endeavour of the Government to increase and realise the full export potential of all the tradable services. However, software, travel, transportation, insurance, communication, construction, financial and management services account for the bulk of services export.

Achievements of CDGI

1752. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centre for the Development of Glass Industry, Firozabad was established with the assistance of UNDP;

(b) whether the Centre has been able to provide upgraded technologies to the industry to manufacture world class glasswares;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of important work done by the Centre during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Since its inception, the Centre for the Development of Glass Industry, Firozabad is striving to assist the conventional glass industry in its modernization by providing technology to improve the quality and productivity of glass industry. Details of some of the important work done by the Centre during the last three years are